

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES/METHODS/EXEMPTION 3B2G
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2005

SR/2/B-61-15

16 January 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, SR/2
SUBJECT : Contact Report - AEKILO/2

1. On 19 December 1960 at 1300 hours C/O [] met AEKILO/2 in the lobby of the Park Sheraton Hotel, Seventh Avenue and 55th Street, New York, N.Y. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss matters of pertinent interest to the Latvian Desk and to pay a sum of money to AEKILO/2 for information furnished during the past several months.
2. Following a business luncheon at the Park Sheraton, the C/O and AEKILO/2 went to the Hotel Victoria at Seventh Avenue and 51st Street where a further operational discussion took place in Room 1503.
3. The undersigned congratulated AEKILO/2 on his report based on an interview with Mrs. Liliya VEDNERS, [] [] a recently arrived immigrant from Latvia, who is currently residing with her daughter, Mrs. Zenta VANAGS, Long Island, New York.

This report, which contained among other things some pertinent information on [] [] has been sent to SR/Reports for evaluation. A CSCl is being sent to the Bureau regarding Mrs. fnu MURNIEKS who flew to the United States on the same plane with Mrs. VEDNERS. MURNIEKS visited in Boston and later with Mrs. VEDNERS before returning to Latvia in May 1960. VEDNERS believes that she may be a Communist who had a certain mission in the U.S.
4. While in Chicago AEKILO/2 interviewed Mrs. Zelma OZOLINS nee BLOMNIK [] [], a recent Soviet Latvian immigrant, who lives with her daughter Aina A. SVANBERGS, 2313 N. Sawyer Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. This report, received by mail, is presently being translated and copies will be disseminated to the appropriate individuals within SR Division.

SECRET

SECRET

- 2 -

5. The C/O in an effort to uncover information regarding Mrs. Laima KUKS, []

[] asked the agent to furnish the names of Latvian organizations and persons living in Austria. He agreed to do so. It is felt that such information might facilitate development of contact with the KUKS. Feliks KUKS [] heretofore was reluctant to talk with [] [].

6. AEKILO/2 who visited London, Ontario in November 1960 was unable to learn much regarding Egil George LAPENSON [] [], a recent arrival from Soviet Latvia. LAPENSON, who was formerly in Florida, is now according to the agent residing in Montreal, Province of Quebec. AEKILO/2 will obtain the address.

7. No positive results have been obtained in acquiring films on Riga from Sweden and Denmark. AEKILO/2 is still hopeful of obtaining same on loan.

8. The agent gave the undersigned clippings and furnished a copy of a press interview which [] [] AEKILO/2 received this information from Karlis DZILLEJA, Secretary General of the Latvian Social Democratic Party who lives in Sweden. Copies of same have been forwarded to the field.

9. AEKILO/2 was asked to obtain information regarding Ernsts SVEICS, 964 E. 15th Street, Apt. 6, Brooklyn, New York. SVEICS is of interest to the Latvian desk with respect to his relationship to [] [].

10. The C/O gave AEKILO/2 Russian language copies of questionnaires: Initial Questionnaire; Questionnaires on Education; Residence; Life on MTS, Kolkoz and Sovkoz; Military Service. These questionnaires for the agent's use only are guides as to the type of information we would like to know. Moreover, the agent has been instructed to keep his ear open to any information regarding missiles in the course of his interviews with recent arrivals from Soviet Latvia.

11. AEKILO/2 turned over his file of DZIMTENES BALSS for July and August 1960. This publication is the principal propaganda organ of the CP to induce Latvians in the West to repatriate. It contains info on activities of many Latvians world wide.

12. The undersigned queried AEKILO/2 regarding Herbert CIRKURS, a Latvian residing in Sao Paulo, Brazil, who has been named by Pearson and Anderson as being a war criminal. According to one Max Kaufmann in New York who wrote a book on the matter, CIRKURS was

SECRET

SECRET

- 3 -

responsible for slaying 32,000 Jews. AEKILO/2 claimed no precise knowledge as to the facts but allowed that CIRKURS had been an adventurer even as a pilot in the Latvian Air Force. He agreed to compile a biographical sketch on same from his records. The C/O pointed out the importance of avoiding any contact with such an individual or individuals. The agent allowed that he had info on fmu ARAJS, a chairman of the Latvian Sicherheitsdienst who lives in the New York area. He may have been connected with repressions under the Nazis. AEKILO/2 will furnish info at next meeting.

13. The sum of twelve dollars (\$12.00) was paid for two 1961 subscriptions to Daugavas Vanagi, the official publication of the Latvian Veterans Association, of which AEKILO/2 is editor.

14. The agent gave the undersigned the November issue of ACEN News.

15. Teo KRUMS, a recent visitor to Latvia, will be interviewed by AEKILO/2 in the near future.

16. At 1440 hours the meeting concluded. No surveillance was observed at any time.

[]]
SR/2/Baltic/Latvia

SECRET